



# Cherry Production

ISSN: 1948-9072

Released June 25, 2014, by the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), Agricultural Statistics Board, United States Department of Agriculture (USDA).

## Tart Cherry Production Down 10 Percent

United States tart cherry production is forecast at 264.4 million pounds, down 10 percent from the 2013 production.

In Michigan, the largest producing State, the crop is widely varied this year due to colder than normal weather leading to reports of winterkill and freeze damage.

New York and Pennsylvania growers expect smaller than average crops this year. Many growers reported damage due to freezing temperatures during bloom.

In Wisconsin, some respondents reported damage to trees from harsh winter weather.

Oregon growers expect an average crop this year.

Utah growers are expecting high yields this year.

In Washington, growers reported very good weather and are expecting a significant increase in production from last year.

## Tart Cherry Production – States and United States: 2012, 2013, and Forecasted 2014

State	Total production		
	2012 (million pounds)	2013 (million pounds)	2014 (million pounds)
Michigan .....	11.6	217.9	181.5
New York .....	2.7	12.0	6.0
Oregon .....	1.0	3.8	3.0
Pennsylvania .....	3.3	2.2	0.9
Utah .....	40.0	27.5	36.0
Washington .....	24.8	17.9	26.0
Wisconsin .....	1.7	12.4	11.0
United States .....	85.1	293.7	264.4

## Sweet Cherry Production Down 2 Percent

United States sweet cherry production is forecast at 326,240 tons, down 2 percent from 2013.

In California, warm and dry winter weather reduced chilling hours. Poor pollination resulted in minimal set and record-low yields. The harvest ended mid-June.

In Michigan, development is behind normal due to the long winter and delayed spring. Yield is highly variable throughout the state.

New York growers expect a smaller than average crop. Many growers indicated that production potential was reduced due to freeze and frost at the time of bloom.

Growers in Idaho, Oregon, and Washington reported excellent weather this year. Winter conditions were moderate and warm spring conditions resulted in an excellent bloom and good pollination levels.

Utah growers also reported favorable growing conditions.

## Sweet Cherry Production – States and United States: 2012, 2013, and Forecasted 2014

[Blank cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

State	Total production		
	2012	2013	2014
	(tons)	(tons)	(tons)
California .....	92,300	82,000	30,000
Idaho .....	3,600	2,300	2,900
Michigan .....	4,250	22,900	25,800
Montana <sup>1</sup> .....	2,250	1,665	
New York .....	300	1,225	1,690
Oregon .....	56,000	52,000	65,000
Utah .....	1,300	430	850
Washington .....	264,000	169,000	200,000
United States .....	424,000	331,520	326,240

<sup>1</sup> The first estimate for 2014 sweet cherries in Montana will be published in the January 2015 *Noncitrus Fruits and Nuts 2014 Preliminary Summary*.

## Statistical Methodology

**Survey Procedures:** Grower surveys were conducted in 9 cherry estimating States. Producers were contacted to obtain expected yield or production and their assessment of the current crop relative to a full crop. Telephone follow-up of mail survey non-respondents was used to ensure adequate coverage.

**Estimating Procedures:** Information obtained from the cherry grower surveys were used to establish estimates of sweet and tart cherries. These estimates were reviewed for errors, reasonableness, and consistency with historical estimates and industry check data.

**Revision Policy:** All sweet and tart cherry estimates are subject to revision the following year based on a thorough review of all available data.

**Reliability:** Survey results are subject to non-sampling errors such as omission, duplication, imputation for missing data, and mistakes in reporting, recording, and processing the data. These errors cannot be measured directly, but are minimized through rigid quality controls in the data collection process and a careful review of all reported data for consistency and reasonableness.

## Information Contacts

Listed below are the commodity statisticians in the Crops Branch of the National Agricultural Statistics Service to contact for additional information. E-mail inquiries may be sent to [nass@nass.usda.gov](mailto:nass@nass.usda.gov)

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